

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-20 (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A coupling comprising:

first and second generally tubular members each having a sealing end face, a raised, annular sealing bead, an inner bore, and a frictional surface located radially outward of said sealing bead, said tubular members being generally coaxially arranged such that said sealing faces face each other; and

a sealing gasket captured between said sealing beads for sealing said coupling, wherein said frictional surface engages said sealing gasket to prevent relative rotation between said tubular members; said sealing gasket having two respective sides,

wherein said sealing gasket includes a sealing surface on each of said respective sides of said gasket, each of said sealing surfaces contacting one of said sealing beads of said tubular members; and an anti-rotation surface on each of said respective sides of said gasket, each of said anti-rotation surfaces ~~contracting~~ contacting one of said frictional surfaces of said tubular members, wherein each of said respective sealing surfaces and anti-rotation surfaces are coplanar ~~upon assembly of the~~ prior to coupling make-up.

22. (currently amended) The coupling of claim 21 wherein each of said frictional surfaces has raised protrusions.

23. (previously presented) The coupling of claim 22 wherein said raised protrusions are formed by knurling.

24. (previously presented) The coupling of claim 23 wherein said knurling extends generally radially.

25. (cancelled)

26. (previously presented) The coupling of claim 38 wherein each pin extends axially forwardly a distance slightly greater than its respective bead.

27. (previously presented) The coupling of claim 38 wherein said pins are generally equally radially spaced.

28. (cancelled)

29. (previously presented) The coupling of claim 39 wherein said flange has a taper portion that reduces in thickness in an axial direction, and therein said groove is correspondingly tapered to closely receive said flange.

30. (previously presented) The coupling of claim 39 further comprising a second groove on said
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second tubular member and a second flange on said first tubular member, said second flange being disposed in said second groove.

31. (previously presented) The coupling of claim 39 wherein said groove and said flange are located radially outward of said gasket.

32. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ gland for use in a coupling assembly, wherein said gland includes:

a sealing end face, a raised annular sealing bead located on said sealing end face and an inner bore; and

a frictional surface comprising a radially extending band located radially outward of said raised annular sealing bead; wherein said sealing bead and said frictional surface are adapted to engage coplanar surfaces of ~~forms a sealing surface and said frictional surface forms an anti-rotation surface, and wherein said sealing surface and said anti-friction surface are generally coplanar upon engagement with~~ a sealing gasket.

33. (previously presented) The gland of claim 32 wherein said frictional surface has raised protrusions.

34. (previously presented) The gland of claim 33 wherein said raised protrusions are formed by knurling.

35. (currently amended) A coupling comprising:

a first tubular member and a second tubular member, each of said tubular members including a raised annular sealing bead and a frictional surface located radially outward from said sealing bead; and

a gasket of generally uniform thickness;

wherein said annular sealing beads contact respective sealing surfaces of said gasket ~~to form a sealing surface~~ and said frictional surface contacts respective anti-rotation surfaces of said gasket ~~to form an anti-rotation surface~~; and wherein said sealing surface and said anti-rotation surface are generally co-planar ~~upon assembly of the~~ prior to coupling make-up.

36. (previously presented) The coupling of claim 21 wherein said frictional surface is slightly recessed from said sealing beads.

37. (cancelled)

38. (previously presented) A coupling comprising:

first and second generally tubular members each having a sealing end face, a raised, annular sealing bead, an inner bore, and a frictional surface located radially outward of said sealing bead, said tubular members being generally coaxially arranged such that said sealing faces face each other; and

a sealing gasket captured between said sealing beads for sealing said coupling, wherein said frictional surface engages said sealing gasket to prevent relative rotation between said tubular members;

wherein said sealing gasket includes a sealing surface that contacts said sealing beads of said tubular members and an anti-rotation surface that contacts said frictional surface of said tubular members, wherein said frictional surface comprises a plurality of axially-extending pins.

39. (previously presented) A coupling comprising:

first and second generally tubular members each having a sealing end face, a raised, annular sealing bead, an inner bore, and a frictional surface located radially outward of said sealing bead, said tubular members being generally coaxially arranged such that said sealing faces face each other; and

a sealing gasket captured between said sealing beads for sealing said coupling, wherein said frictional surface engage said sealing gasket to prevent relative rotation between said tubular members;

wherein said sealing gasket includes a sealing surface that contacts said sealing beads of said tubular members and an anti-rotation surface that contacts said frictional surface of said tubular members, wherein said first tubular member includes a generally radially-extending flange received in a groove on said second tubular member, wherein said flange extends forwardly from said sealing face of said first tubular member.

40. (currently amended) A coupling comprising:

first and second generally tubular members each having:

a sealing end face, a raised annular sealing bead located on said sealing end face and an inner bore; and

a frictional surface located radially outward of said raised annular sealing bead; ~~wherein said sealing bead forms a sealing surface and said frictional surface forms an anti-rotation surface, and wherein said sealing surface and said anti-friction surface are generally coplanar; and~~

a sealing gasket captured between said sealing beads for sealing said coupling; wherein said sealing beads engage corresponding sealing surfaces on said sealing gasket, said frictional surfaces engage corresponding anti-rotation surfaces on said sealing gasket, and said corresponding sealing surfaces and anti-rotation surfaces are generally coplanar prior to coupling make-up.

41. (withdrawn) A method of coupling two generally tubular members such that relative rotation between the two generally tubular members is prevented, comprising:

a) retaining a metal sealing gasket in a central opening of a metal locking ring having two side faces, wherein each side face is inclined with respect to a radial plane and oppositely inclined such that the width of said ring decreases in the radially outward direction and includes a knurled surface;

b) clamping the two generally tubular members against the metal seal locking ring and

the metal sealing gasket such that the metal locking ring side faces frictionally engage the tubular members to thereby prevent relative axial rotation between said tubular members and such that the metal sealing gasket engages the tubular members to thereby provide a seal between said tubular members.

42. (withdrawn) A method of coupling two generally tubular metal members comprising:

a) assembling a metal sealing gasket with a locking ring having side faces that are inclined with respect to a radial plane and include a frictional surface;

b) forcing the two generally tubular members into engagement with metal sealing gasket and the locking ring such that the side faces frictionally engage said tubular members to prevent relative rotation between the tubular members and such that a the metal sealing ring engages a sealing bead of each tubular member to provide a seal between the tubular metal members.

43. (withdrawn) A method of coupling a metal sealing gasket and a metal locking ring, comprising: retaining the metal sealing gasket in a central opening of the metal locking ring having two side faces, wherein each side face is inclined with respect to a radial plane and oppositely inclined such that the width of said ring decreases in the radially outward direction and includes a knurled surface.